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Darts & Laurels

To CIA Director Admiral Stansfield Turner (USN-Ret.)—for diverting his energy from the catch-up ball game he should be managing for the US intelligence community, and instead writing an article in the August Naval Institute Proceedings called, "Thinking About the Future of Our Navy." The admiral should be thinking about the future of US intelligence.

To Admiral Turner, for his politically-warped view of history: his article reads like a paid political announcement. He wrote this, for instance, about the Navy's declining ship and aircraft strength: "What this tells us in unequivocal terms is that the Congress of the United States and the American public does not believe that the United States requires a Navy of even 12 large carriers filled with sophisticated aircraft. They are not giving us the wherewithal to maintain such a Navy." Stan, have you checked the ships which Congress has added to Jimmy Carter's defense budgets, compared to the ones he's cut from the Navy's? Don't you read the public opinion polls? And by the way, isn't the CIA Director supposed to be non-parochial on Service issues? Or is he now writing similar pieces on the Army or the Air Force?